

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 AGR-10 RSC-01 AID-05 EB-06 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10

EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 SWF-01 L-02

OIC-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /118 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7749

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, OCON, EAGR

SUBJ: FAO SUB-COMMITTEE ON SURPLUS DISPOSAL - CCP DEBATE

FROM USDEL/CCP

SUMMARY: DEBATE ON ADAPTING FUNCTIONS AND NAME OF SUB-COMMITTEE  
ON SURPLUS DISPOSAL (CSD) FEATURED BY SHARP CLASHES IN BOTH  
PLENARY AND DRAFTING GROUP, WITH EXPORTING COUNTRIES FAVORING ROLE  
FOR CSD IN ANY SYSTEM OF WORLD FOOD SECURITY AND INDIA AND  
EGYPT STRONGLY OPPOSING. ALL AGREE DECISIONS PREMATURE NOW.  
REPORT AS AGREED IS ESSENTIALLY FAVORABLE TO CSD BUT CONTAINS  
NO MANDATE FOR NEW YORK AT PRESENT TIME. END SUMMARY.

1. AT REQUEST SECRETARIAT, US DELEGATE PRESENTED BOTH CSD  
REPORTS. DELEGATE ACCORDINGLY REFRAINED FROM PARTICIPATION  
IN DISCUSSION WHICH FOLLOWED.
  
2. CCP DEBATE CENTERED ON SPECIAL REPORT WHICH EXPLORED POSSIBLE  
CHANGES IN CSD FUNCTIONS, ROLE AND NAME IN LIGHT OF CHANGED FOOD  
AID SITUATION AND FOOD SECURITY PROPOSALS TO BE CONSIDERED  
AT WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. NETHERLANDS IN WELL ORGANIZED  
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PRESENTATION SUGGESTED CSD SHOULD DEVISE PROCEDURES PARALLELING

RULES FOR NONINTERFERENCE WITH TRADE TO ALSO INSURE  
NONINTERFERENCE WITH FOOD PRODUCTION IN RECIPIENT COUNTRIES.  
NO DELEGATES COMMENTED IN PLENARY BUT SEVERAL EXPRESSED  
INTEREST IN CORRIDOR TALKS.

3. CSD PRAISED BY ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, CANADA,  
DENMARK AND FRANCE. ALL FELT CSD MIGHT HAVE PART IN FUTURE WORLD  
FOOD SECURITY SYSTEM BUT THAT FUNCTIONS AND NAME SHOULD REMAIN  
UNCHANGED FOR PRESENT. THEY SUPPORTED CSD SUGGESTION THAT ITS  
REPORT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO WFC PARGICIPANTS. CANADA SUGGESTED  
CSD TAKE FRESH LOOK AT FAO PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES FOR POSSIBLE  
UPDATING.

4. INDIA AND EGYPT TOOK STRONG NEGATIVE POSITIONS ON ALL POINTS,  
ARGUING AGAINST BOTH ACTION ON REPORT OR ON SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER  
CSD REVIEW OF ITS FUNCTIONING. CHAIRMAN, APPEARING ANXIOUS TO  
TERMINATE DEBATE, RULED THAT DECISIONS MUST AWAIT OUTCOME OF WFC  
AND ALSO THAT REPORT WOULD NOT BE REFERRED TO WFC.

5. DISPUTE REOPENED IN DRAFTING GROUP BY INDIA, CLAIMING TO  
ALSO SPEAK FOR EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVE WHO WAS ILL. ARGUMENT  
CENTERED ON LANGUAGE IN DRAFT REPORT WHICH BROUGHT CSD REPORT  
AND CCP DEBATE TO ATTENTION FAO COUNCIL AND IMPLIED THAT QUESTION  
OF CSD FUNCTIONS WOULD BE CONSIDERED FURTHER IN WFC FOLLOW-UP.  
INDIA TRIED TO DELETE THESE PASSAGES AND WATER DOWN OTHER  
LANGUAGE RECOGNIZING USEFULNESS OF CSD. TENCIOS STRUGGLE  
FOLLOWED, WITH US WITH HELP FROM AUSTRALIA AND FRANCE INSISTING  
THAT REPORT MUST REFLECT DEBATE WHICH PREPONDERANTLY FAVORABLE  
TO CSD. PROPERLY BALANCED REPORT FINALLY ACHIEVED  
WHICH ALERTS COUNCIL TO USEFULNESS OF CSD IN A FOOD SECURITY  
SYSTEM AND FLAGS QUESTIONS OF REPOSNISBILITIES AND NAME FOR  
DECISION IN WFC FOLLOWUP.VOLPE

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